

## TMCC Wish List

- Fire engine for fire science program  
\$250,000
- Panorex X-ray for dental hygiene program  
\$16,000
- Four microscopes for biology  
\$7,200
- Smart classroom technology for visual communications  
\$6,980
- LEGO robotic kits for physical science  
\$3,342
- Slide scanner, Nikon Coolscan, 35mm scanner for media services  
\$1,179

Call the TMCC Foundation  
at 775-674-7648  
for information on how  
to donate items or funds.

## TMCC Graduates Honored at Commencement

On May 21 more than 500 students participated in the annual commencement ceremony at Truckee Meadows Community College. Two particularly outstanding students were honored as this year's Regents' Scholar and TMCC Alumna of the Year.

The Regents' Scholar award is given to one student from each University and Community College System of Nevada institution for academic achievement, leadership ability and service contributions. The Alumna of the Year Award is an honor given to a graduate who has been successful after enrollment at the college.



Lisa Carpenter, Regents' Scholar

### Regents' Scholar

TMCC graduate Lisa Carpenter of Reno has been selected as the college's 2004 Regents' Scholar. Formerly a high school dropout, Carpenter turned her academic career around when, at age 17, she was the first student to graduate from Washoe High School with a 4.0 grade point average and numerous honors, including the Most Improved Student and the Most Outstanding Graduate awards from the Washoe Teachers Association and Student of the Year by the Kiwanis Club of Reno South.

While at TMCC, Carpenter earned a 3.67 GPA and completed an associate of arts degree with dual honors—as a member of Phi Theta Kappa, the international honor society for two-year colleges, and as a TMCC honors program student.

In PTK, Carpenter served as the vice president for fellowship and as public relations officer, and helped organize two major events – the health fair at the college and a coat drive for the Committee to Aid Abused Women. She also served as TMCC's representative to the 2003 international PTK convention in Anaheim, Calif.

Carpenter's other recognitions include selection as the Coca-Cola Scholar by Lt. Gov. Lorraine Hunt for outstanding community service, membership in the All-Nevada Academic Team, nomination to the All-USA Academic Team, and inclusion in The National Dean's List for 2002-2003.

In addition to her academic work, Carpenter is a tutor at the TMCC Writing Center, offers private tutoring and teaches English as a second language classes for the Northern Nevada Literacy Council, a position she says changed her life.

"I love it," Carpenter said. "Teaching ESL brought me to a crossroads, completely because of the students. They have so much enthusiasm, even after working a full day and attending the classes." Carpenter plans to continue her education with a major in English.

### Alumna of the Year

Shelley Atkins of Sparks has been selected as the 2004 Alumna of the Year. Born and raised in the Reno area, Atkins said she had a difficult time during high school. In fact, she attended nine different high schools and was in and out of treatment centers. Finally, at age 16, she went to live in a group home, stopped using drugs, gained self esteem and graduated from Washoe High School in 1994.

Atkins decided to attend TMCC after taking a dual credit criminal justice class during her last semester of high school. The class sparked her interest and helped her realize that college could be a better experience than high school.

"I also went to college as a way of being rebellious," Atkins said, "since so many people thought I would end up dead or in prison because of my bad decisions as a teenager." After graduating from TMCC with an associate's degree in criminal and juvenile justice, she continued her education at the University of Nevada, Reno and earned both bachelor's and master's degrees in social work. Hired as a Washoe County juvenile probation officer, she then returned to TMCC to attend the High Sierra Police Academy, graduating as the valedictorian and "Most Inspirational Student."

Atkins continues to serve as a Washoe County probation officer and is now a part-time TMCC criminal justice instructor.

"I love working with the kids," Atkins said. "I hope that by finishing college and working with troubled teens, I can show them that success is possible, even for someone with a difficult past."



Shelley Atkins, Alumna of the Year

## Thank you

Thank you to these donors for  
their recent gifts.

### Scott Motors Company

\$8,500 in materials for automotive technology

### Sierra Pacific Power Company

\$5,000 for scholarships  
\$2,000 for production of "The Guys"

### Western Nevada Supply

\$5,000 for production of "The Guys"

### Wells Fargo Bank

\$5,000 for production of "The Guys"

### United Airlines

\$5,000 in gift certificates for event

### International Game Technology

\$3,500 for production of "The Guys"

### Alliance with Washoe County Medical Society

\$2,500 for scholarship endowment

### Bryson Gordon

\$2,000 in equipment for diesel technician

### Advertising Association of Northern Nevada

\$1,000 for scholarships

# TMCC Trendsetters

**Jowel Laguerre, Ph.D.**, vice president for academic affairs, will serve on the search committee for the UCCSN vice chancellor of academic and student affairs.

**Fred Lokken**, associate dean, teaching technologies, was recently elected chair of the City of Sparks Redevelopment Agency's Design Review Committee.

**L.D. Lovett**, assistant dean, multicultural diversification, and **Bonnie Green**, placement specialist in financial aid, scholarships and student employment, served as judges for the 2004 Best of Education awards program.

**John Clevenger, Ph.D.**, chemistry professor, presented a seminar, "Chemical Education: A Look Back to the Future," at the Community College of Southern Nevada. Clevenger also serves as the 2004 chair of the division of chemical education to the American Chemical Society.

**Tell Gifford, Ph.D.**, English professor, successfully defended his thesis and has earned a master of arts degree in music from the University of Nevada, Reno. Gifford also holds a Ph.D. in English.

**Robert Hernandez**, director, Veterans Upward Bound, and **Ken Mela**, VUB program specialist, attended the National Association of Veterans Upward Bound Program Personnel conference in Denver. TMCC will serve as the national data collection and analysis center for all VUB programs, and Hernandez and Mela will produce a publication demonstrating the program's effectiveness and outcomes performance.

**Paul Marsala**, state leadership coordinator/director, ABE/ESL, has been elected as assistant Nevada representative of CATESOL, the largest chapter for TESOL (Teachers of English to Speakers of Other Languages).

**Marian Miller**, administrative assistant to the dean, Edison Campus, Technical Institute, has been selected as the employee of the month for May.



**TRUCKEE MEADOWS COMMUNITY COLLEGE**  
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TMCC is an equal opportunity/affirmative action institution. Qualified students with physical or documented learning disabilities have the right to free accommodations to ensure equal access to educational opportunities at TMCC.

